

This is another group with an ax to grind. I have been an operator for many years, and have done contesting, field day, special events, etc. CW is the second most popular mode, and it has an exchange rate for ham radio activities at least as fast as phone. I have found it to be much more effective to use in bad band conditions, or in high noise conditions. Everyone with any experience knows this. I don't like a special interest group trying to change my hobby to something different than it is by strong arming the FCC. As I stated in another comment, we already have a no code license. Anyone who wants to upgrade can. The changes instituted in 2000 have insured that. I have seen blind people, deaf people, and those with major handicaps all pass the code test. Yet, we have a group that continues to whine and moan endlessly about how hard it is. Ham radio needs morse code. It's the only effective way to operate HF for a lot of people, with it's over 10 db advantage. The hobby is fine as it is. We don't need to bow down to commercial interests. During field day this year, my site was pounded by 80 mph wind and sheets of rain, a band from a passing tropical storm. As soon as the wind let up enough to uncover the equipment, we had the CW station back on the air.